

The HUB

The Official Newsletter of American Fork City



Life Jacket Loaner Program at American Fork Marina

American Fork City has entered into a partnership agreement with the Utah Lake Commission to construct a life jacket stand designed to provide a limited number of loaner life jackets to lake users and boaters beginning this summer.

"The goal of this project is simple," said Brad Frost, American Fork City Mayor and current Chair of the Utah Lake Commission. "We want all lake users to have incredible and memorable experiences on Utah Lake and we want them to be safe doing so."

Seven stations are planned at marinas and access points around the lake. But on Tuesday, June 22, American Fork City Council agreed to host the first of these new stations at the American Fork Boat Harbor. Utah Lake Commission has been preparing for this through a life jacket drive which brought in 190 jackets. These jackets will be used to stock the life jacket stations around the lake.

"If they save just one life, the project will be a huge success," said Utah Lake Commission Executive Director, Eric Ellis. "Hopefully, they will be the needed precaution to save many more lives over time."

Mayor Brad Frost added, "American Fork City fully supports this effort by the Commission to make life jackets more readily available at the lake. In recent years, visitation at American Fork Marina has gone up significantly and we want to ensure that life jackets are available to those who don't have one while visiting the Lake."

"Nationally, over 80% of people who drowned in boating accidents would have survived had they been wearing a life jacket," said Ellis—quoting a 2016 boating study.

Continued on Page 2

In This Issue

History of Celebration	2
Talk Shop With A Cop	3
Utah Rent Relief.....	3
Fireworks Restrictions.....	3
Watering Guidelines.....	4
Steel Days Events	4

Office Numbers

Administration	801-763-3000
Public Works.....	801-763-3060
Library	801-763-3070
Fitness Center.....	801-763-3080
Senior Center	801-763-3090

Non-Emergency

Police	801-763-3020
Fire & Rescue.....	801-763-3045

On-Call / After-Hour

Water/Pressurized	801-404-1253
Sewer/Storm Drain	801-404-7167
Streets	801-404-1255
Garbage	801-924-8500
Street Lights	801-814-4311



AMERICAN FORK
www.americanfork.gov



HISTORY OF AF CELEBRATIONS

The pioneers who settled American Fork worked hard to survive and build something. But they also played hard. They enjoyed socializing at the different celebrations. This kept their morale up from the everyday grind and gave them something to look forward to at the end of a long day. These celebrations were simple pleasures with games, singing, music, sports, races, and dancing. Of course, there was always good food when it was time to celebrate. Brigham Young, the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, encouraged the pioneers who settled here to be well-rounded by enjoying arts and culture as part of town activities. So almost from the beginning of American Fork, a love of music and bands were part of their celebrations. Whether it was one man playing the fiddle or an entire brass band, they enjoyed the music any way they could.

Some of the early celebrations no longer exist today. One celebration American Fork observed from the beginning was May Day, held on May 1. This fun day was a tradition that came with the British Isles immigrants. Sarah Amelia Britton Wooton was the first May Queen of American Fork.

Another bygone celebration was Timber Day which started in 1865. This celebration was especially joyous as it included a newly formed brass band. Timber Day was held in a grove of trees adjacent to American Fork and lasted almost 40 years, ending in 1904.

Even though Utah was not made a state until January 4, 1896, that didn't stop the settlers of American Fork from celebrating the 4th of July while still a U.S. territory. They also celebrated the 24th of July, the day the first pioneers came into the Salt Lake Valley in 1847. In Sarah Ann Richards Elsmore history it tells of her husband, Joseph Hyrum Elsmore, stating "He had charge of all the fireworks on the 4th and



**American Fork Brass Band- organized in 1866, Left to Right. Top row- William Paxman, William W. Robinson, Isaac Abel, and Joseph Wild. Middle - Joseph Robinson, Cyrus Gough, William Grant (Leader), Thomas B. Steele, William B. Dunn, and Edward Lee. Kneeling - Frank Pulley and Martin Hansen*

the 24th of July celebrations and took part in the dramatics."

The year after Timber Day ended American Fork started Liberty Day. American Fork residents alternated the Liberty Day between July 4 and July 24 every year. It always had a patriotic theme. This celebration became more formal with a parade with a band, horse pulled flatbed floats. However, they still took the time to celebrate the pioneers that helped settle American Fork. There was a Goddess of Liberty that would reign over the festivities. Liberty Day was observed until 1926.

Poultry Day was started in 1927 but 1928 found it in high gear with a full day of activities. There was a parade, carnival, flower show, art show, and all-day movies at the Cameo Theater and a ball game in the evening. During Poultry Day residents enjoyed the Traditional Free lunch which featured 10,000 chicken sandwiches. Mary Pulley was the first Poultry

Day Queen to reign over the activities. Celebrations were not held during the depression or world-war two.

Steel Days started in 1945 to honor and celebrate the new steel plant that went into production. Steel Days reflected the new steel economy which quickly became the largest employer in Utah Valley. The celebrations had the same activities as the past but as it grew they added more days and more current events.

Throughout the years, American Fork has always had great people, bands, and arts. We have always known how to celebrate! Let the tradition continue!! Steel Days is coming July 5-10. Please join the DUP on the 24th of July as we celebrate our pioneer ancestry and 60th anniversary of the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum at Robinson Park.

Photos and Information collected from the Daughters of Utah Pioneers Museum

Life Jacket Loaner Program at American Fork Marina

Continued from Page 1

The Utah Lake Commission began the effort of a lake-wide life jacket loaner program after the drowning deaths of Priscilla Bienkowski and Sophia Hernandez in May 2020. The Commission partnered with the families of the two girls to create

and implement the program. In addition to the used life jackets collected the Lake Commission also brought in \$1, to help start the program. Other locations planned for the life jacket stations are Saratoga Springs City Marina, The Knolls, Lindon Marina, Vineyard Beach, Mill Race and Lincoln Beach Marina. The Utah Lake Commission hopes to expand the program beyond these seven locations in future years.

The life jacket loaner program is intended to be a supplement program; aimed at those who forget their life jacket. Boaters should not rely on this program as a sole source for their life jackets. If a life jacket is borrowed from the loaner program, it should be returned the same day it is borrowed.

If you have questions about the program or would like to donate, contact the Utah Lake Commission at info@utahlakecommission.org or 801-851-2900.

Talk Shop With a Cop

Breaking the Cycle of Violence

While no one likes to receive a citation or be the subject of an arrest, these types of actions serve a purpose in the criminal justice system. Perhaps you have watched a crime drama where a victim is given the choice as to whether or not they want to press charges. In some cases this option for a victim is available. However, cohabitant abuse is one of the few laws that require an officer to make an arrest or issue a citation when there is evidence a crime has occurred. The State has made this mandatory to allow the courts the opportunity to intervene and break the cycle of violence and to help improve the lives of those who find themselves living in an abusive or dysfunctional environment. The citation or arrest is the gateway to the criminal justice system, especially in domestic violence and drug offenses. Citations and arrests are not strictly to punish the individual. Domestic violence has been shown by research to be multi-generational for both victims and offenders.

American Fork Police hold weekly meetings with city prosecutors to discuss active cases before the court and work to develop the best solution to each individual case. For domestic violence cases, this may include anger management counseling, substance abuse counseling, employment counseling, or other resources meant to address each unique situation. This is further enhanced by the



efforts of our Victim Advocates who can work with each victim to help understand their situation and needs. Victim Advocates are not police officers but trained civilians that can help victims through the court process, help them obtain protective orders, and answer any other questions. Victim Advocates are here to be a resource for those who find themselves in the criminal justice system and for those who have questions or information before the court system becomes involved.

You are encouraged to contact the police department if you have any questions about domestic violence or other topics; e-mails may be sent to policetalkshop@americanfork.gov or alunt@americanfork.gov. Depending on the number and type of questions received, your question may be answered via the city newsletter, e-mail, or phone call.

Celebrate the 4th Safely



While fireworks are not strictly banned yet in American Fork (as of July 1), it is particularly important to exercise extreme caution if you choose to light fireworks. Please do not light them around dry brush or grass and keep them away from homes. Thoroughly douse spent fireworks and let them sit overnight away from dry areas before throwing away. Only light fireworks at safe locations. Aerials are only allowed at six parks in American Fork, though even then caution is advised. Because of the drought and water restrictions many residents are choosing not to light fireworks at all. While we applaud these efforts and encourage everyone to follow suit, this is not yet required.

PERMITTED DATES IN JULY

As per state law fireworks of any kind are only to be permitted in Utah during the following days:

- July 2-5*
- July 22-25*

**In July fireworks can be lit from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on all allowed nights except the 4th and 24th, which will be until 12 a.m.).*

Please visit americanfork.gov/fireworks for more information.

A dark, stylized map of Utah serves as the background for the advertisement. The map shows the state's outline and internal county boundaries in a light gray color.

UT
RENT
RELIEF

Struggling
to pay rent?

RentRelief.utah.gov

AF City Irrigation Guidelines

American Fork City is implementing the guidelines set forth by the Governor by reducing irrigation water consumption of turf lawn by one third (33%). Irrigation water users can accomplish this a number of ways. They can stop watering on one of their three days, or cut back watering by 33% on all their three days. As a rule of thumb you shouldn't water more than 15 minutes for spray heads and 30 minutes for rotor heads. The City will also reduce scheduled watering of all city facilities.

We ask that all residents and businesses voluntarily comply, and self-govern their property as we work together as a community. Enforcement and fines shall remain as described in the municipal code and resolutions previously adopted.

Did you know that every year American Fork uses so much pressurized irrigation water that we must supplement our PI systems with regular drinking water from our aquifer!? This happens in most all of Utah County cities which makes it worse! This year, because of the drought and increased PI usage American Fork has had to pull from aquifer drinking water sooner than in prior years. Please help us preserve our water by reducing your PI usage. As many have said regarding grass, yellow is the new green.

ROTOR SPRINKLER HEADS



ADJUST TIME TO
30 MINUTES

SPRAY SPRINKLER HEADS



ADJUST TIME TO
15 MINUTES

STEEL DAYS 2021 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, July 5

Pickleball Tournament
Golf Tournament
AF Symphony Concert

Tuesday, July 6

Discount Swim Day
Kids Splash Night
Pickleball Tournament
Horseshoe Tournament
Free Zumba
Free High Fitness
Free Yoga

Wednesday, July 7

Art Show
Pickleball Tournament
Kickball Tournament
Carnival

Thursday, July 8

Art Show
Quilt Show
Carnival
Tea with the Queen
Art Show Awards
Pickleball Tournament
Youth Dance

Friday, July 9

Garden Tour
Art Show
Quilt Show
Carnival
Food and Vendor Expo
American Fork's Got Talent
Movie in the Park

Saturday, July 10

Marching Band Breakfast
Steel Days Run 5K/10K
Spikeball Tournament
Grand Parade
Car Show
Art Show -
Quilt Show
Garden Tour
Carnival
Smoke & Steel Cookoff
Food and Vendor Expo
Live Entertainment
Steel Days Fair
Big Show Opening Act
Big Show
Fireworks

Visit steeldaysaf.com for more information.